

Message Text

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TAGS: EEC, ENRG

SUBJECT: ENERGY: EC COMMISSION PROPOSALS FOR MODALITIES OF
PREPARATION OF CONSUMER-PRODUCER DIALOGUE

1. SUMMARY: THE COMMISSION TRANSMITTED TO THE COUNCIL
ON JANUARY 10, 1975 TWO PAPERS ON THE PREPARATION FOR
THE CONSUMER/PRODUCER DIALOGUE. ONE CONTAINS THE
COMMISSION'S PROPOSALS FOR COOPERATION AMONG THE NINE
IN THE IEA PROCEEDINGS AND IN THE PREPARATION OF THE
CONSUMER/PRODUCER DIALOGUE. THE SECOND OUTLINES CERTAIN
PRACTICAL DETAILS WHICH WILL HAVE TO BE DEALT WITH PRIOR
TO AND DURING THE DIALOGUE. END SUMMARY

2. IN THE PAPER ON THE IEA AND THE PREPARATION OF THE
DIALOGUE, THE COMMISSION ARGUES THAT "PRETTY WELL ALL,
IF NOT ALL OF THE AGENCY'S PROCEEDINGS ARE OF PARTICULAR
INTEREST TO THE COMMON MARKET WITHIN THE MEANING OF
ARTICLE 116 OF THE TREATY OF ROME "WHICH PROVIDES FOR COMMON
EC ACTION IN ECONOMIC INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS)"...(BEFORE)
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MEETINGS OF THE DIFFERENT IEA BODIES... THERE SHOULD BE PRIOR

MEETINGS BETWEEN...THE NINE MEMBER STATES AND THE COMMISSION." THE FULL TEXT OF THE COMMISSION'S PAPER IS TRANSMITTED BELOW:
BEGIN TEXT: COMMISSION COMMUNICATION TO THE COUNCIL ON THE ACTIVITIES OF THE INTERNATIONAL ENERGY AGENCY; THE PREPARATION OF THE CONSUMER/PRODUCER DIALOGUE, JANUARY 10, 1975, COM(75) 5 FINAL.

(1) SINCE THE END OF DECEMBER 1974 THE INTERNATIONAL ENERGY AGENCY'S PROCEEDINGS HAVE BEEN STEPPED UP PARTICULARLY AS A RESULT OF THE OUTCOME OF THE MEETING BETWEEN PRESIDENT FORD AND PRESIDENT GISCARD D'ESTAING. SPECIAL STRESS MUST BE LAID IN THIS CONNECTION ON THE IMPORTANCE AND URGENCY OF THE PREPARATION OF THE DIALOGUE BETWEEN THE OIL-CONSUMING AND THE OIL-PRODUCING COUNTRIES. THE PREPARATORY MEETING WITH THE PRODUCER COUNTRIES IS PLANNED FOR MARCH.

(2) WITH REGARD TO A NUMBER OF MATTERS BEING DEALT WITH AT THESE PROCEEDINGS THERE ARE ALREADY COMMUNITY GUIDELINES AND DECISIONS (E.G. THE COUNCIL RESOLUTION OF 17 SEPTEMBER 1974, THE RESOLUTION ON 1985 COMMUNITY ENERGY POLICY OBJECTIVES OF 17 DECEMBER 1974, AND VARIOUS DECISIONS, RESOLUTIONS, DIRECTIVES AND REGULATIONS ON INFORMATION, FUEL EFFICIENCY, STOCKPILING AND RESEARCH IN THE ENERGY FIELD). IT IS, MOREOVER, OBVIOUS THAT PRETTY WELL ALL, IF NOT INDEED ALL, THE AGENCY'S PROCEEDINGS ARE OF PARTICULAR INTEREST TO THE COMMON MARKET WITHIN THE MEANING OF ARTICLE 116 OF THE TREATY OF ROME.

(3) IT FOLLOWS THAT AS REGARDS THE FIELDS ALREADY COVERED BY COMMUNITY DISCUSSIONS ONLY COMMUNITY POSITIONS IN LINE WITH THOSE DISCUSSIONS CAN BE ADOPTED IN THE IEA. ON ALL OTHER MATTERS OF PARTICULAR INTEREST TO THE COMMON MARKET IT IS ESSENTIAL THAT THE MEMBER STATES TAKING PART IN THE IEA'S ACTIVITIES SHOULD CONDUCT A COMMON ACTION IN ACCORDANCE WITH ARTICLE 116.

(4) TO ENSURE THAT THE COMMUNITY ARRANGEMENTS WORK PROPERLY, TRADITIONAL PROCEDURE FOR PREPARING DISCUSSIONS IN THE OECD CONTEXT SHOULD HENCEFORTH BE MADE TO APPLY TO THE MEETINGS OF THE DIFFERENT IEA BODIES, THAT IS, THAT THERE SHOULD BE PRIOR MEETINGS BETWEEN QUALIFIED OFFICIALS LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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OF THE NINE MEMBER STATES AND OF THE COMMISSION.

() AS CONCERNS THE MATTERS TACKLED BY THE AGENCY ON WHICH THERE HAVE NOT YET BEEN DEFINITE COMMUNITY DISCUSSIONS, THE COMMISSION IS REQUIRED UNDER ARTICLE 116 TO SUBMIT TO THE COUNCIL PROPOSALS WITH RESPECT TO THE SCOPE AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE JOINT ACTION REFERRED TO IN THE ARTICLE. THE MOST URGENT OF THESE MATTERS HAVE TO DO, AS NOTED IN (1) ABOVE, WITH THE PREPARATION OF THE DIALOGUE BE-

TWEEN THE CONSUMER AND THE PRODUCER COUNTRIES. CONSEQUENTLY, THE COMMISSION SUBMITS TO THE COUNCIL, TOGETHER WITH THIS COMMUNICATION, A PAPER ON THE PROCEDURE FOR THIS DIALOGUE.

(6) OVER AND ABOVE POINTS CONCERNING THE ACTUAL HOLDING OF THE DIALOGUE, ATTENTION WILL HAVE TO BE GIVEN TO THE FIELDS WHERE SATISFACTORY PROGRESS MUST BE ACHIEVED BEFORE THE DIALOGUE WITH THE PRODUCER COUNTRIES OPENS, INCLUDING IN PARTICULAR:

(I) MOUNTING OF CONCERTED ENERGY CONSERVATION PROGRAMMES;

(II) EXPEDITED DEVELOPMENT OF NEW ENERGY RESOURCES.

THE COMMISSION WILL BE SUBMITTING TO THE COUNCIL AT THE EARLIEST POSSIBLE DATE PROPOSALS WITH REGARD TO:

(A) SHORT-TERM REDUCTION OF OIL CONSUMPTION;

(B) PRINCIPLES OF A COMMUNITY ENERGY RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT POLICY. END TEXT.

3. IN THE PAPER DEALING WITH PRACTICAL DETAILS OF THE DIALOGUE, THE COMMISSION NOTES THAT PRIOR TO THE PREPARATORY MEETING "SATISFACTORY PROGRESS" WILL HAVE TO BE MADE AMONG THE CONSUMERS ON ENERGY CONSERVATION, DEVELOPMENT OF NEW ENERGY RESOURCES AND FINANCIAL SOLIDARITY. THE COMMISSION DEFINES "SATISFACTORY PROGRESS" AS AN AGREEMENT ON OBJECTIVES AND BROAD OUTLINES OF PROGRAMS, NOT THE PREPARATION OF FULLY WORKED OUT PROGRAMS. THE PAPER CONTAINS A FAIRLY INCLUSIVE LIST OF TOPICS WHICH MUST BE DEALT WITH IN THE DIALOGUE. ACCORDING TO THE COMMISSION POSITION, THE PRODUCERS,

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INDUSTRIALIZED CONSUMERS AND DEVELOPING CONSUMERS SQGD ALL BE REPRESENTED IN THE DIALOGUE, WITH THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY PARTICIPATING AS SUCH. THE TEXT OF THE COMMISSION PAPER FOLLOWS:

BEGIN TEXT: COMMISSION COMMUNICATION TO THE COUNCIL ON PRACTICAL DETAILS WITH REGARD TO THE DIALOGUE BETWEEN CONSUMER AND PRODUCER COUNTRIES; JANUARY 10, 1975, COM(75) 7 FINAL.

THE SUBJECTS WHICH MAY BE EXPECTED TO BE DEALT WITH IN THE COMING DIALOGUE BETWEEN THE CONSUMER AND THE PRODUCER COUNTRIES VERY MUCH CONCERN THE COMMUNITY, EITHER AS EFFECTING EXISTING COMMON POLICIES OR AS BEING OF PARTICULAR INTEREST TO THE COMMON MARKET. THE COMMISSION WOULD ACCORDINGLY SUBMIT THE FOLLOWING PROPOSAL TO THE COUNCIL WITH RESPECT TO THE PRACTICAL DETAILS OF THE DIALOGUE.

IN ITS PROPOSAL THE COMMISSION HAS BORNE IN MIND THAT THE PREPARATORY PROCEEDINGS BY THE INDUSTRIALIZED COUNTRIES ARE BEING CONDUCTED IN PARALLEL VIA DIFFERENT ORGANIZATIONS: THE INDUSTRIALIZED LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PARTIES CONCERNED BELONG VARIOUSLY TO THE COMMUNITY, THE INTERNATIONAL

ENERGY AGENCY AND, IN MONETARY MATTERS, THE GROUP OF TEN. THE LIAISON AND COORDINATION PROBLEMS POSED BY THIS STATE OF AFFAIRS WILL NEED TO BE DEALT WITH BY JOINT EFFORTS ON THE PART OF ALL CONCERNED, INCLUDING THE COMMUNITY ITSELF.

(1) PREPARATORY STAGE OF PREPARATORY MEETING PLANNED FOR MARCH 1975

(1.1) IT IS NECESSARY- AS HAS MEANTIME BEEN RECOGNIZED BY THE PRINCIPAL PARTNERS - THAT BEFORE THE PREPARATORY MEETING, SATISFACTORY PROGRESS SHOULD BE ACHIEVED BY THE INDUSTRIALIZED CONSUMER COUNTRIES ON:

- PREPARATION OF CONCERTED ENERGY CONSERVATION PROGRAMMES;
- EXPEDITED DEVELOPMENT OF NEW ENERGY RESOURCES;
- FINANCIAL SOLIDARITY.

IN THE COMMUNITY'S VIEW, "SATISFACTORY PROGRESS" IS NOT TO BE TAKEN AS MEANING THE PREPARATION OF FULLY WORKED OUT PROGRAMMES IN THESE THREE FIELDS, BUT ARRANGEMENT ON OBJECTIVES AND ON THE BROAD OUTLINES OF SUCH PROGRAMMES OR SCHEMES, IN THE FORM OF POLITICAL COMMITMENTS.

(1.2) AT THE SAME TIME THERE WILL HAVE TO BE FORMULATED, BOTH WITHIN THE COMMUNITY AND WITHIN THE GROUP OF INDUSTRIALIZED CONSUMERS, THE OBJECTIVE AND CONTENT OF THE DIALOGUE WHICH THE INDUSTRIALIZED CONSUMER COUNTRIES WILL PROPOSE TO THE OTHER CATEGORIES OF COUNTRIES INVITED TO TAKE PART.

(1.3) THE OBJECTIVE MUST BE THAT ALL THE PARTIES CONCERNED SHOULD BE BETTER INFORMED OF THEIR RESPECTIVE INTERESTS AND PRE-OCCUPATIONS AND THAT HARMONIOUS RELATIONS SHOULD BE ESTABLISHED BETWEEN THE CONSUMER AND PRODUCER COUNTRIES IN ORDER TO PROMOTE THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE WORLD ECONOMY ON SOUND BASES.

THIS OBJECTIVE CAN BE ATTAINED ONLY BY A CONTINUOUS PROCESS OF DIALOGUE, WITH THE PLANNED CONFERENCE AS ITS STARTING-POINT. THE DIALOGUE SHOULD LEAD TO BETTER KNOWLEDGE OF ONE ANOTHER'S PROBLEM AND MAKE IT POSSIBLE, FROM AN ANALYSIS OF THE SITUATION, TO FRAME OBJECTIVES IN LINE WITH THE IMPORTANCE TO ALL OF:

-- OVERCOMING THE IMBALANCES IN THE ECONOMIES OF ALL THE COUNTRIES,
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DEVELOPING AND INDUSTRIALIZED ALIKE;

-- HEALTHY EXPANSION OF THEIR ECONOMIES;

-- SMOOTH DEVELOPMENT OF INTERNATIONAL TRADE AND COOPERATION BETWEEN THE PRODUCER AND CONSUMER COUNTRIES IN THE FIELDS OF INDUSTRY AND FINANCE.

(1.4) HAVING REGARD TO THESE OBJECTIVES, THE FOLLOWING MAIN TOPICS SHOULD BE DISCUSSED;

-- ANALYSIS OF THE SITUATION AND GENERAL ECONOMIC FORECASTS AND OF THE DEVELOPMENT OF WORLD ENERGY CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION;
-- PROBLEMS OF THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OF THE PRODUCER COUNTRIES;
-- ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL PROBLEMS OF THE NON-OIL-PRODUCING DEVELOPING COUNTRIES;
-- SCOPE FOR INVESTMENT BY THE PRODUCER COUNTRIES IN THE DEVELOPING AND THE INDUSTRIALIZED COUNTRIES;
-- PROBLEMS ARISING FOR THE INTERNATIONAL FINANCE MARKETS;
-- MOVEMENT OF OIL PRICES;
-- CONDITIONS AND SECURITY OF OIL SUPPLY.

SPECIFIC MATTERS SUCH AS OIL PRICES AND OIL SUPPLIES ARE AMONG THE FOCAL ISSUES TO BE CONSIDERED IN THE DIALOGUE. IT DOES NOT, HOWEVER, APPEAR APPROPRIATE THAT THESE SHOULD BE TACKLED IN ISOLATION AND TO SOME EXTENT IN ABSTRACT OUTSIDE THE GENERAL ECONOMIC CONTEXT, AS THIS WOULD RISK THE DIALOGUE'S BECOMING INVOLVED RIGHT FROM THE OUTSET IN STERILE CONFRONTATIONS IT IS FOR THIS REASON THAT THESE MATTERS HAVE BEEN PLACED WHERE THEY HAVE ON THE ABOVE LIST.

(1.5) ONE POINT ON WHICH IT IS ALSO NECESSARY TO REACH AGREEMENT IS WHO SHOULD ATTEND THE PREPARATORY MEETING. THOSE ATTENDING SHOULD BE RESPONSIBLE REPRESENTATIVES OF COUNTRIES BELONGING TO THE THREE FOLLOWING GROUPS: THE PRODUCER COUNTRIES, THE INDUSTRI-

ALIZED CONSUMER COUNTRIES, AND THE DEVELOPING CONSUMER COUNTRIES. THEY SHOULD BE FEW ENOUGH IN NUMBER TO ENABLE WORK TO PROCEED EFFECTIVELY: AT FIRST GLANCE IT WOULD APPEAR THAT THERE SHOULD NOT BE MORE THAN FIVE FOR EACH OF THE THREE CATEGORIES OF COUNTRIES. THEY SHOULD BE CHOSEN - IN THE FIRST INSTANCE BY THE RESPECTIVE GROUPS OF COUNTRIES THEMSELVES - SO AS TO BE PROPERLY REPRESENTATIVE, PARTICULARLY IN GEOGRAPHICAL AND ECONOMIC RESPECTS. THE GROUP OF INDUSTRIALIZED CONSUMER COUNTRIES SHOULD SELECT ITS TEAM ACCORDINGLY. THE COMMUNITY SHOULD TAKE PART QUA COMMUNITY. IN ADDITION, ARRANGEMENTS MIGHT BE MADE TO PERMIT THE ATTENDANCE IN AN OBSERVER LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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CAPACITY OF REPRESENTATIVES OF REGIONAL AND FUNCTIONAL INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS CONCERNED.

(2) THE PREPARATORY MEETING PLANNED FOR MARCH

(2.1) THE TASK OF THE PREPARATORY MEETING WOULD BE TO DRAW UP A PRELIMINARY LIST OF TOPICS TO BE DEALT WITH AT THE CONFERENCE AND TO DETERMINE THE DATE, VENUE AND COMPOSITION OF THE CONFERENCE, WHICH IS TO MARK THE START OF THE DIALOGUE PROPER. THE PREPARATORY MEETING SHOULD ALSO SET IN MOTION CERTAIN TECHNICAL-LEVEL ACTIVITIES IN ADVANCE OF THE INAUGURATION OF THE DIALOGUE.

(3) THE DIALOGUE

(3.1) THE COMMUNITY QUA COMMUNITY AND THE REST OF THE INDUSTRIALIZED CIBTRUES' GROUP WILL NEED TO CONCERT TOGETHER BEFOREHAND ON THE POSITIONS TO BE ADOPTED WITH RESPECT TO THE SEVERAL TOPICS LISTED FOR THE DIALOGUE.

(3.2) THE DIALOGUE, WHICH IT IS THE INTENTION SHOULD CONTINUE AND DEVELOP AS TIME GOES ON, WILL BE INAUGURATED BY A CONFERENCE. THE OBJECT OF THE CONFERENCE WILL BE TO WORK OUT FROM THE DISCUSSION TOPICS ADOPTED INITIALLY (SEE 1.4) THE METHODS AND PROCEDURES WHEREBY THE DIALOGUE CAN THUS DEVELOP: THE DRAWING-UP OF THIS INITIAL LIST NEED NOT PRECLUDE THE PARTICIPANTS FROM ADDING OTHER MATTERS ACCORDING AS THE SITUATION DEVELOPS AND COOPERATION IS INSTITUTED IN THE CONTEXT OF THE DIALOGUE. END TEXT. GREENWALD

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